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**TO:** Examiner K. Rowan  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

**FAX:** 703-872-9306

**FROM:** Dennis H. Rainear

**DATE:** February 4, 2004

**PAGES:** 8 (including cover sheet)

**Re:** Response to Advisory Action  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/886,234 of Anderson Filed on 06/21/2001

**NOTE:** Original also deposited with U.S. Postal Service as first-class mail  
on February 4, 2004

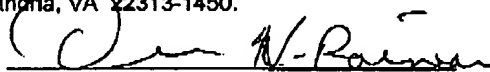
**TRANSMITTAL**In Re Application of: **ANDERSON.**

Serial Number: 09/886,234

Filed: 06/21/2001

For: **BREAKAWAY LINKS FOR  
UNDERWATER GEAR****CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this Response is being faxed to 703-872-9308 and also deposited by me with the United States Postal Service as First-Class Mail on February 4, 2004 with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Dennis H. Rainear

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

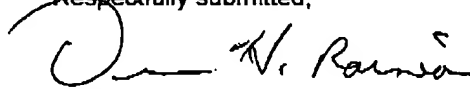
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response to an Advisory Action dated January 30, 2004, including the following:

Response to Advisory Action  
Clean Copy of Claims  
Return Postcard

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501890. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dennis H. Rainear, Reg. No. 32,486

13400 College Valley Lane  
Richmond, VA 23233  
Phone: 804-788-5516

Date: February 4, 2004

**OFFICIAL****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****FEB 10 2004****In re Patent Application of****ANDERSON****Application No. : 09/886,234****Filed: 06/21/01****For: BREAKAWAY LINKS FOR  
UNDERWATER GEAR****Group Art Unit: 3643****Examiner: ROWAN, K.****CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to 703-872-9306 and also deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on February 4, 2004, with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Dennis H. Rainear

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION**

Sir:

This is in response to the Advisory Action dated January 30, 2004.

Please cancel claims 3-7, and issue allowed claim 1. A clean copy of the claims is enclosed.

The undersigned attorney thanks the Examiner for the helpful discussion on February 3, 2004. The ribbon copy of the patent will be provided upon request.

Applicants ask the Examiner to correct the record regarding the response date of their last reply. As the undersigned attorney discussed with the Examiner by telephone on December 18, 2003, and January 6, 2004, Applicants mailed their reply on November 26, 2003, not December 1, 2003 as evidenced by the return post

card and as recited on the Advisory Action. The Examiner is respectfully asked to correct the PTO records as to the response date of November 26, 2003.

Also, it would appear that the failure of the Examiner to allow claims 3-7 after final in a timely fashion has triggered a late fee. While Applicants believe that no additional fee is due, if this is incorrect, Applicants request that the fee of \$475 for a three (3) month extension be billed to the deposit account number 501890.

A duplicate of this paper is enclosed in the hard copy being mailed.

Please expedite the allowance of claim 1 in this reissue patent application. Applicants reserve the right to file an appeal, and/or file related applications directed to canceled claims 3-7 and/or withdrawn claims 2 and 8-25.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis H. Rainear  
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Richmond, Virginia 23233  
(804) 788-5516

Date: February 4, 2004